

FINANCE, OIL AND GAS

STOCK MARKETS

CLOSED YESTERDAY.

Columbus day is a legal holiday in most of the states all the stock markets and exchanges were closed yesterday.

Oil and Gas.

The West Virginia fields presented no thrills at the beginning of the week. Of the few completions reported, all are light pumps. In Harper district, Boone county, the Carter Oil company second test on the Martha Monroe well has been drilled into the salt water zone. The Carter Oil company is showing for a light oil. In Boone county, the Carter Oil company has started to drill another test on the H. C. Carter farm. The same company's No. 4 on the C. L. Monroe farm is due in the same formation. In the same district the same company has started to drill a test on the W. S. Holbert farm.

On Denton creek, Big Sandy district, Kanawha county, operators are still shooting oil wells to keep up their production. In this district the United Fuel Gas company gave its No. 1 and No. 2 on the W. W. Bird farm light

shots, increasing their production from 25 to 124 and 18 to 72 barrels, respectively.

In Central district, Doddridge county, the Woodward & Co.'s test on the Samuel Adams farm has been drilled to a depth of 2,800 feet and shut down. In the same district the Carter Oil company has material at a location for another test on the William Deak farm. The same company is starting a second test on the George Abers farm. In New Milton district the Eastern Petroleum company has a rig completed on the W. B. Maxwell farm. In Troy district, Gilmer county, the Hope Natural Gas company is starting a test on the Heckett heirs' farm. The Williams Oil company has the rig completed for a test on the J. F. Tennant farm in Clay district, Monongalia county. In the same district J. H. McDermott & Co. have made a location on the Rezin Pyles farm.

In the old Cookson pool, Beaver county, Pa. Bland & Co.'s No. 7 on the Susan Cookson farm is a duster. In the Zeilenpole field, Butler county, Guffey Bros. & Garvin have drilled their test on the John Murray farm through all sands, including the Tiona at a depth of 2,900 feet and dry in all formations. This is the deepest well drilled in that old field for a great many years.

LATE WASHINGTON NEWS GOSSIP

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 14.—As many gubernatorial candidacies in West Virginia have been claiming the favor and support of Senator Davis Elkins as there were cities claiming to be the birthplace of the late Mr. Homer who, in his day, was more of a poet than he was a politician. Being dead at the time that the controversy arose, he was at the great disadvantage of not being able to settle it with an authoritative statement. Being quite alive, Senator Elkins has it all over the late Mr. Homer. He proceeded to settle the argument going on among the candidates and their friends today.

Senator Elkins isn't favoring or supporting any excited and fretful candidate, whether the same be running on his own hook or for somebody else. He's neutral with a cap. N. but gives no guarantee that he will always remain so. He reserves the right to take a hand later on, should he want to, and says that if he does back down from his present attitude of observant neutrality, he will frankly and directly make public notice of his change to be Republican party.

Senator Elkins issued the following brief and unambiguous statement on this matter today:

"At this time I am taking no part in any way and no one is authorized to use my name in the interest of any candidate for the gubernatorial nomination. Later, I should I decide to support any one of the candidates, I will make announcement to that effect personally."

This statement was believed by Senator Elkins to be necessary in fairness to himself, to the candidates themselves, and the party. His active support was being claimed by first one and then the other, as an important feature of their respective campaigns to gain party sentiment. Senator Elkins hopes to put an end to that deceptive pastime, unjust to him, by his statement issued today.

Inducing him to support their own particular candidacy has been a thing of importance that all the candidates and their friends have been working successfully on for some time. They want him with an organization of personal followers that will go the way he goes, should he decide to favor one candidate above the others. But, in his formal statement of today, he refuses to be induced or weighed—not at so early a stage in the proceedings, at any rate.

The mysterious messages from the planet Mars that Charles E. Nichols, merchant of the mining village of Adrian in Upshur county, have been received by government experts and their translation forwarded to Mr. Nichols by Senator Sutherland. The Adrian has been busy for several months dropping their unintelligible messages at the front door of the mercantile establishment of nights. Sometimes they were accompanied by notes well written Americans hinting the importance of the messages, of things to happen at certain dates, and saying that all effort be made to interpret the hieroglyphs. At first, it was thought by Mr. Nichols to be a joke, but the messages from Mars kept coming with such regularity, that they began to worry and that got to his nervous system and then—Well, to put it in the vernacular that most aptly describes his feelings—"it got his

When he appealed to the government through Senator Sutherland to have the great mystery, it proved to be easy. The messages were in the international wireless code. They weren't threatening, more spiritualist tone, spooky and creepy. They were all nice polite messages from Mars.

and seemed to aim to help Mr. Nichols in side-stepping certain dates and looking for something to happen, whether good or ill they did not state, between certain other dates.

Of course, these messages may have come from Mars. If they did it proved that they have our international wireless code up there. Before accepting that theory, however, Senator Sutherland suggested to Friend Nichols that he look about Adrian and find out if there is an amateur wireless operator in that locality. It is a very popular study with Young America these times.

Evening Chat

An Honest Curiosity.

One of the favorite sayings of Mother when we were youngsters was "Watch out or you'll break your neck!" It sounded just like the remark which had been made the day before, and the day before that, and the day before that, so we paid little heed to it. This morning there came a man into the mayor's office with an honest-to-goodness cross-your-heart-and-lock-it broken neck. He wanted permission to sell post-boards on the street explaining that it was only in this way that he could earn a living for him family. The permission was granted. He wore a heavy brace which held his head and neck in place. The only time it is taken off is when he is shaved. At such times he is laid back in a chair and remains there helpless until put back again in harness. As there are only two or three human beings alive in the world with a genuine broken neck, he was very much of a curiosity.

Have A Chestnut.

It's a wonder to me that dentists don't have an extra amount of business these fall days for nearly everyone I meet has a bag of chestnuts tucked away somewhere about his person which he hauls out with the generous remark—"Have a chestnut, do." In offices, in homes, in the picture theatres and on the streets, one hears the "crack, crack," of teeth on the poor, unoffending chestnut. Some say this nut is good for you in the raw state. Others are horrified that it is being eaten in such quantities unroasted. Say, where are the little roasters which stood on all the corners last fall? Don't you miss them? In spite of the fact that most of the tiny shops were closed, isn't there still a place where the roasting man may hang out? Maybe roasting chestnuts wasn't a profitable business. Broke up too many worm families just gone to housekeeping. A fellow didn't feel like buying nut, worm, family and all. You can't be positively sure a chestnut is roasted with

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no sign on the outside. Though when the teeth and tongue come down on something slippery, shivery and squirmy, suspicions grow immediately strong. After one's time has been spent.

Two Dog Tales

I haven't said a word about my dog for six months. While I was away this summer she had a bath very nearly every day and by the time I arrived home, she was the softest, whitest, silkier dog imaginable. Peggy has made friends with most of the policemen and I really believe, if I should neglect buying her a license tag, she would say to Mr. Kip Fleming or Mr. Kern if she met either of these stern gentlemen on the street without proper identification card: "Pleese, Mr Policemen, you know me—just slip me by."

Peggy expects everybody to love her and very nearly everyone does. Sometimes I walk down the street and someone will stop me and say: "I saw Peggy over by the Opera House and there's a big, ugly bull dog around there who will surely bite her if you don't watch out." Of course I immediately watch out. Peggy isn't particularly fond of a bath. That is to say, she can exist without one very nicely—so when she sees a man with his sleeves rolled up, carrying a bath towel on one arm she slinks faster a wink under the couch or china closet. You can call and call and she remains deaf. At other times just one "Come, Peggy" brings her leaping.

Today one member of my family is missing and Peggy—who after all is just as human as any of the rest of us—wanders from room to room in search of the absent one. She listens intently when a door opens and at night she walks back and forth in the front hall—waiting—waiting.

There's another dog in my neighborhood I'm particularly fond of. He's a large Scotch collie who will soon be without a home. Or at least so the neighbors say. It's nobody's fault, but you can't blame poor collie for believing in folks in spite of everything and still sticking around the family who brought him up and then didn't want him anymore. Every year the children say: "Oh, suppose they wouldn't buy him a license tag this year. Poor collie—he'd get killed." Collie sleeps under a neighbor's porch and eats wherever he finds a stray bone. Poor doggie, he isn't much wanted anywhere but he sticks around just the same begging dumbly for a kind word or a random caress.

On The Sadness of Autumn.

For First Offense One Receives Slight Punishment.

I feel so sad.

I can't be glad.

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I want to cry.
For summer flowers
And cooling showers
And leaves a-glimmer
I want the days
With lazy ways
No work in sight
From morn till night
And most of all
I hate the Fall.
With days so cold
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To make one sigh.

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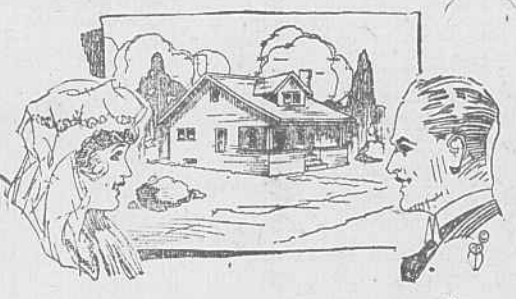
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